

# High Energy Dilepton Experiments

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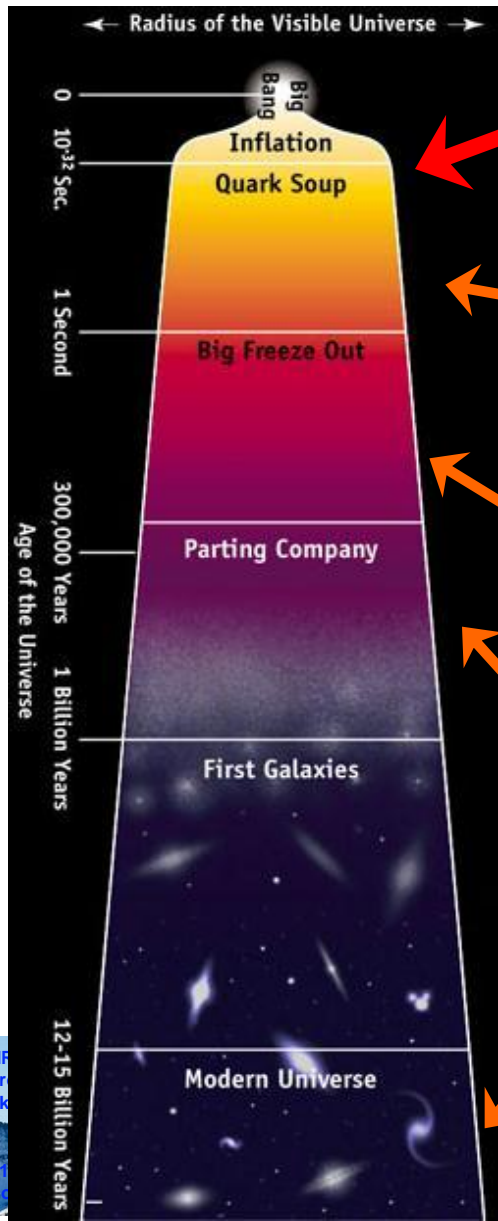
**HGS-HiRe Lecture Week  
Manigod  
24-31 January 2010**

**Introduction**



# Evolution of the Universe

## from the Big Bang to today's world



**Too hot for quarks to bind!!!**  
**Standard Model (N/P) Physics**

**Quark-  
Gluon  
Plasma**

**Too hot for nuclei to bind**  
**Nuclear/Particle (N/P) Physics**

**Hadron  
Gas**

**Nucleosynthesis builds nuclei up to He**  
**Nuclear Force...Nuclear Physics**

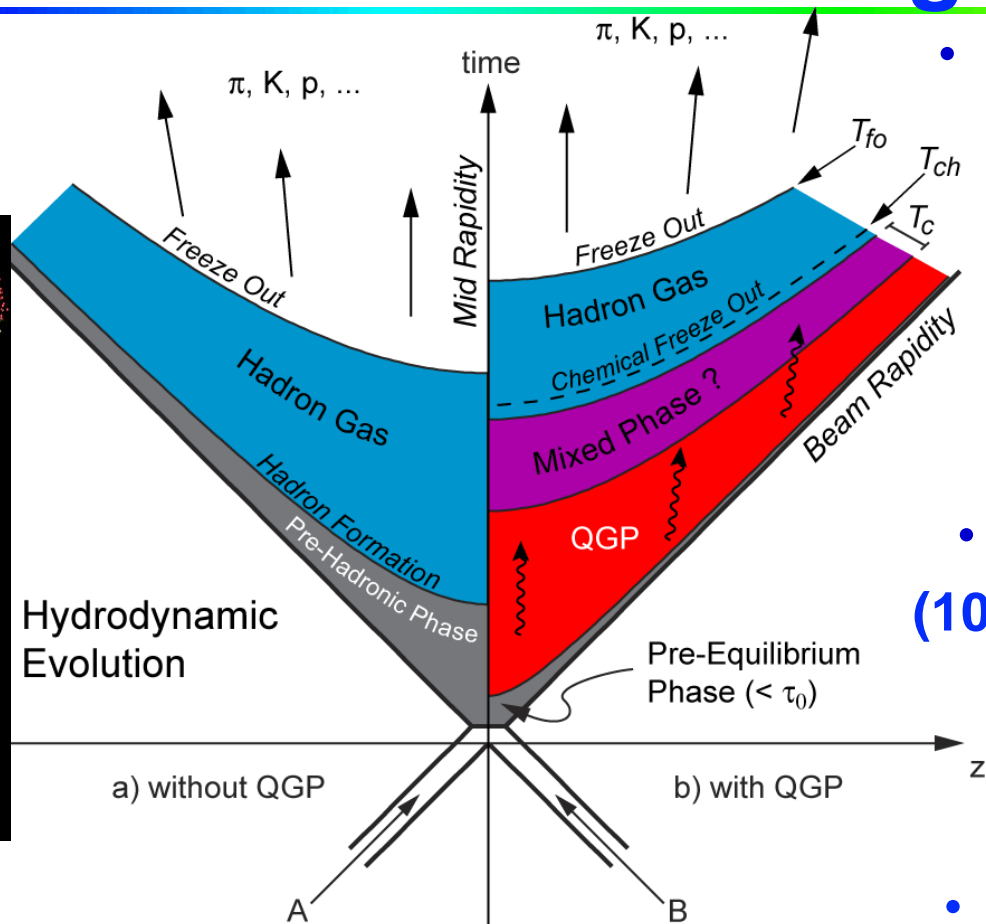
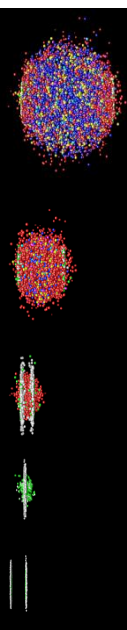
**Universe too hot for electrons to bind**  
**E-M...Atomic (Plasma) Physics**

**E/M  
Plasma**

**Today's Cold Universe**  
**Gravity...Newtonian/General  
Relativity**

**Solid  
Liquid  
Gas**

# The “Little Bang” in the lab



- High energy nucleus-nucleus collisions:
  - fixed target (SPS:  $\sqrt{s}=20\text{GeV}$ )
  - colliders
    - RHIC:  $\sqrt{s}=200\text{GeV}$
    - LHC:  $\sqrt{s}=5.5\text{TeV}$
- QGP formed in a tiny region ( $10^{-14}\text{m}$ ) for very short time ( $10^{-23}\text{s}$ )
  - Existence of a mixed phase?
  - Later freeze-out
- Collision dynamics: different observables sensitive to different reaction stages

# Probing the QGP

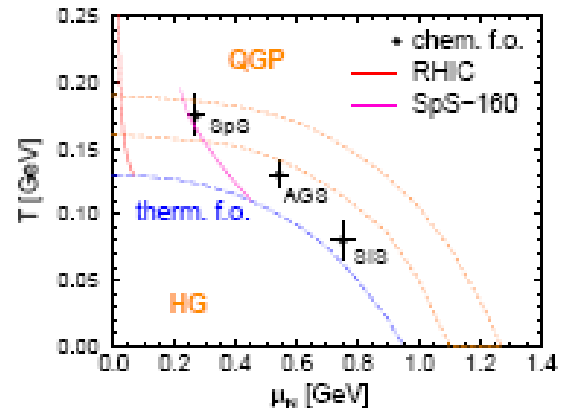
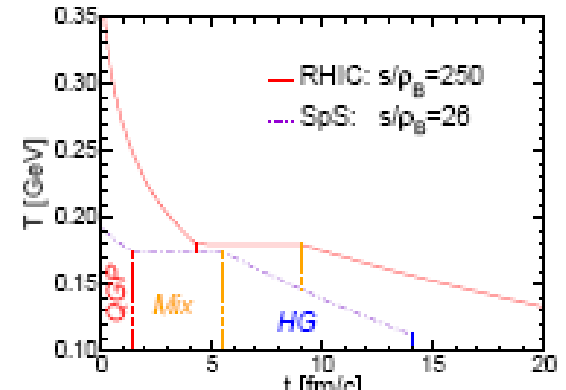
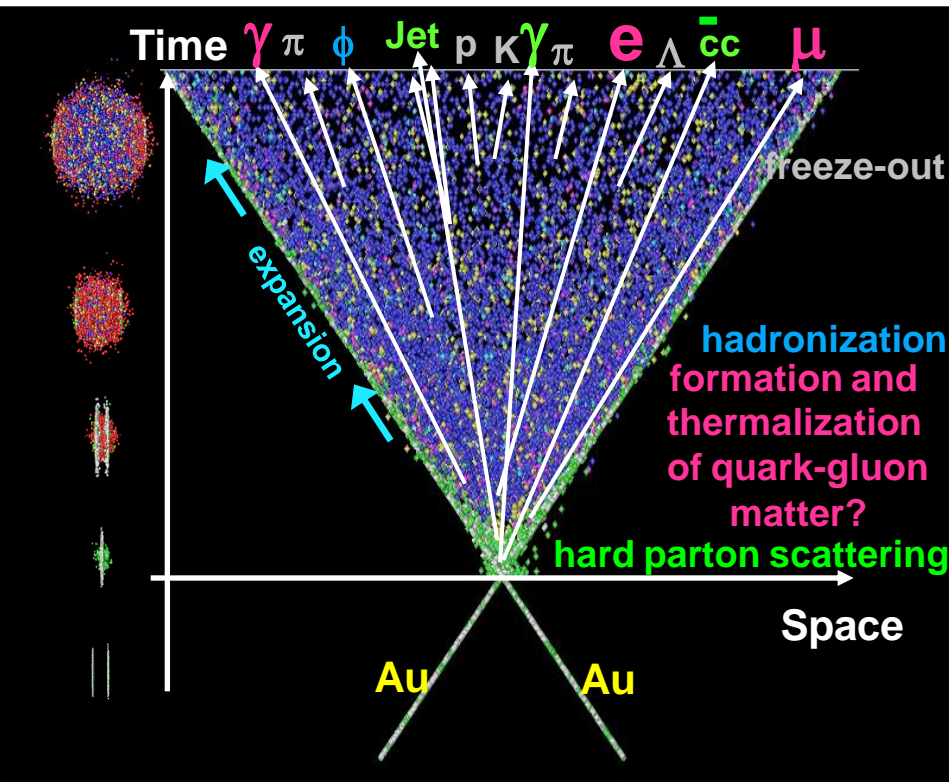
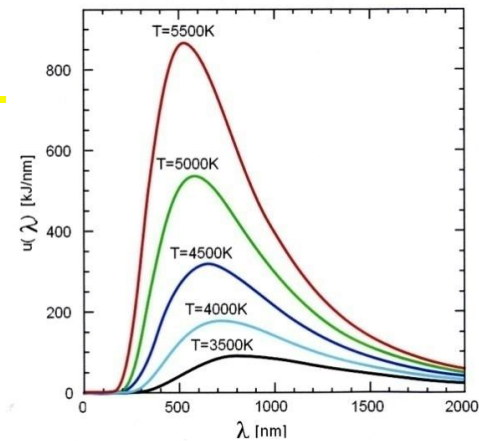
- Rutherford experiment  $\alpha \rightarrow$  atom discovery of nucleus
- SLAC electron scattering  $e \rightarrow$  proton discovery of quarks



- **Penetrating beams** created by parton scattering before QGP is formed
  - High transverse momentum particles  $\rightarrow$  jets
  - Heavy particles  $\rightarrow$  open and hidden charm or bottom
- **Probe QGP** created in Au+Au collisions
  - Calculable in pQCD
  - Calibrated in control experiments: p+p (QCD vacuum), p(d)+A (cold medium)
- **Produced hadrons lose energy by (gluon) radiation in the traversed medium**
- **QCD Energy loss  $\rightarrow$  medium properties**
  - Gluon density
  - Transport coefficient

# Electromagnetic Radiation

- Thermal black body radiation
  - Real photons  $\gamma$
  - Virtual photons  $\gamma^*$  which appear as dileptons  $e^+e^-$  or  $\mu^+\mu^-$
- No strong final state interaction
  - Leave reaction volume undisturbed and reach detector
- Emitted at all stages of the space time development
  - Information must be deconvoluted





# What we can learn from lepton pair emission

arXiv:0912.0244

## Emission rate of dilepton per volume

$$\frac{dR_{ll}}{d^4q} = -\frac{\alpha^2}{3\pi^3} \frac{L(M)}{M^2} \text{Im}\Pi_{em,\mu}^\mu(M, q; T) f^B(q_0, T)$$

$$f^B(q_0, T) = 1/(e^{q_0/T} - 1)$$

$$L(M) = \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_l^2}{M^2}} \left(1 + \frac{2m_l^2}{M^2}\right)$$

$\gamma^* \rightarrow ee$   
decay

EM correlator  
Medium property

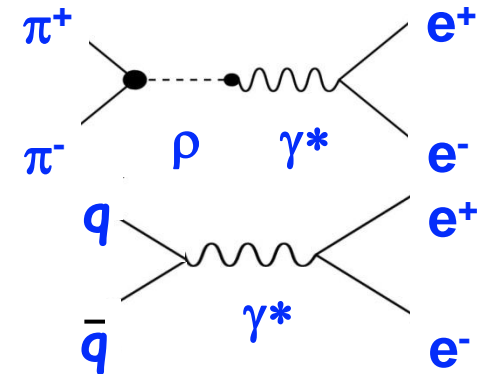
Boltzmann factor  
temperature

Hadronic contribution  
Vector Meson Dominance

$$\text{Im}\Pi_{em}^{\text{vac}}(M) = \begin{cases} \sum_{V=\rho,\omega,\phi} \left(\frac{m_V^2}{g_V}\right)^2 \text{Im}D_V(M) \\ -\frac{M^2}{12\pi} \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_s(M)}{\pi} + \dots\right) N_c \sum_{q=u,d,s} (e_q)^2 \end{cases}$$

qq annihilation

Medium modification of meson  
Chiral restoration



Thermal radiation from  
partonic phase (QGP)

From emission rate of dilepton, one can  
decode

- medium effect on the EM correlator
- temperature of the medium

# Relation between dilepton and virtual photon

arXiv:0912.0244

## Emission rate of dilepton per volume

$$\frac{dR_{ll}}{d^4q} = -\frac{\alpha^2}{3\pi^3} \frac{L(M)}{M^2} \text{Im}\Pi_{em,\mu}^\mu(M, q; T) f^B(q_0, T)$$

## Emission rate of (virtual) photon per volume

$$q_0 \frac{dR_{\gamma^*}}{d^3q} = -\frac{\alpha}{2\pi^2} \text{Im}\Pi_{em,\mu}^\mu(M, q; T) f^B(q_0, T).$$

## Relation between them Prob. $\gamma^* \rightarrow l+l$

$$\underbrace{q_0 \frac{dR_{ll}}{dM^2 d^3q}}_{\text{Dilepton}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{dR}{d^4q} = \underbrace{\frac{\alpha}{3\pi} \frac{L(M)}{M^2}}_{\text{virtual photon}} \underbrace{q_0 \frac{dR_{\gamma^*}}{d^3q}}_{\text{virtual photon}}$$

This relation holds for the yield after space-time integral

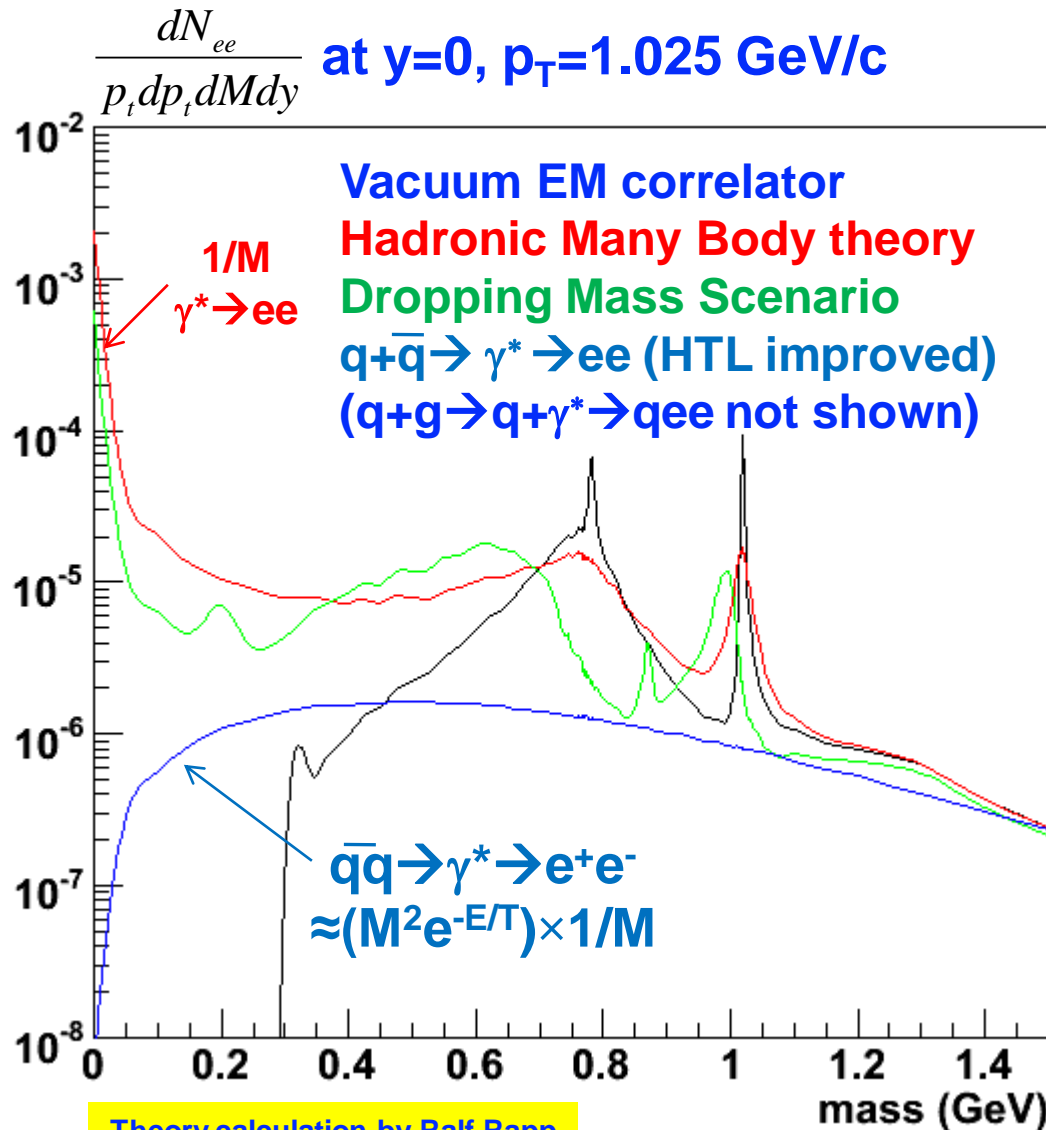
*Virtual photon emission rate can be determined from dilepton emission rate*

$$\begin{aligned} q_0 \frac{dn_{\gamma^*}}{d^3q} &\simeq \frac{3\pi}{\alpha} M^2 q_0 \frac{dn_{ll}}{d^3q dM^2} \\ &= \frac{3\pi}{2\alpha} \underbrace{M q_0 \frac{dn_{ll}}{d^3q dM}}_{\text{M} \times \text{dN}_{ee}/\text{dM} \text{ gives virtual photon yield}} \end{aligned}$$

*For  $M \rightarrow 0$ ,  $n_{\gamma^*} \rightarrow n_{\gamma}(\text{real})$  real photon emission rate can also be determined*

# Theory prediction of dilepton emission

arXiv:0912.0244



Usually the dilepton emission is measured and compared as  $dN/dp_T dM$

The mass spectrum at low  $p_T$  is distorted by the virtual photon  $\rightarrow ee$  decay factor  $1/M$ , which causes a steep rise near  $M=0$

$qq$  annihilation contribution is negligible in the low mass region due to the  $M^2$  factor of the EM correlator

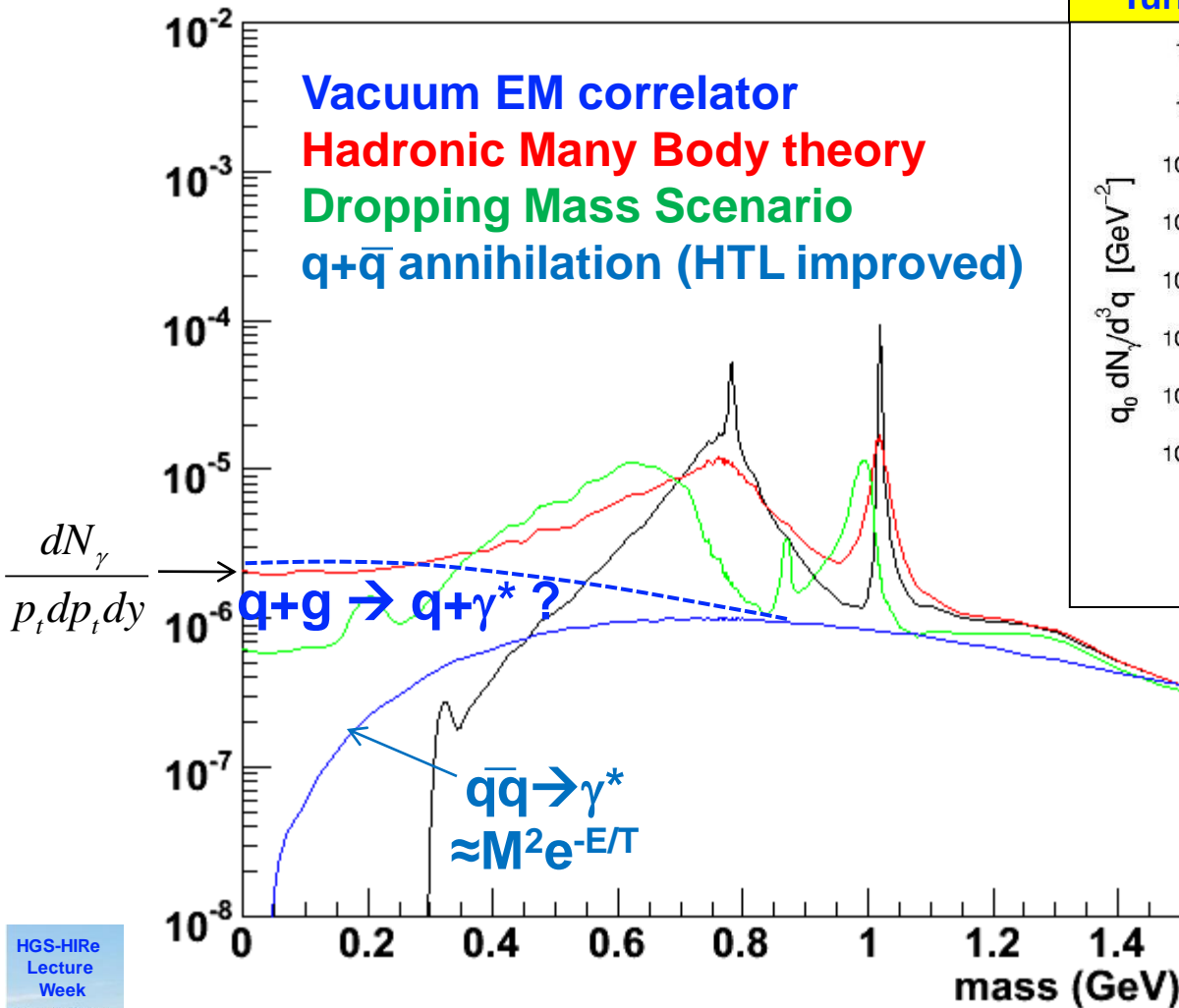
In the calculation, partonic photon emission process  $q+g \rightarrow q+\gamma^* \rightarrow qe^+e^-$  is not included



# Virtual photon emission rate

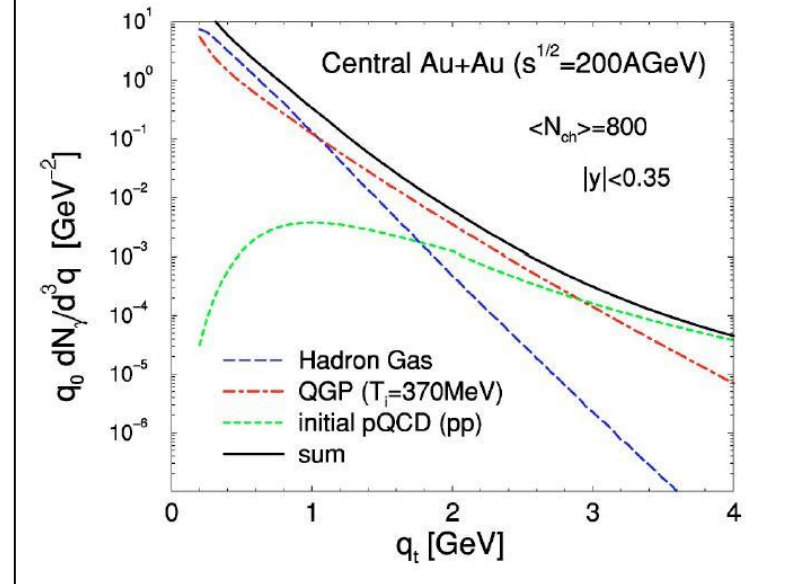
arXiv:0912.0244

$$M \times \frac{dN_{ee}}{p_t dp_t dM dy} \propto \frac{dN_{\gamma^*}}{p_t dp_t dy} \text{ at } y=0, p_T=1.025 \text{ GeV/c}$$



## Real photon yield

Turbide, Rapp, Gale PRC69,014903(2004)



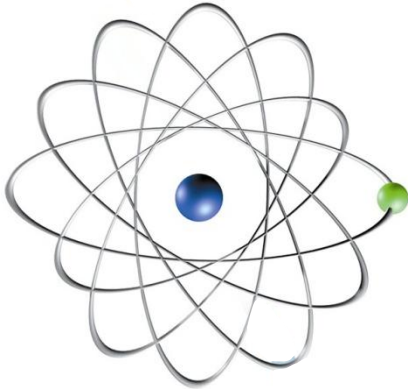
When extrapolated to  $M=0$ ,  
 the real photon emission  
 rate is determined.

$q+g \rightarrow q+\gamma^*$  is not shown; it  
 should be similar size as  
**HMBT** at this  $p_T$

# The mass of composite systems

atom

$10^{-10}$  m

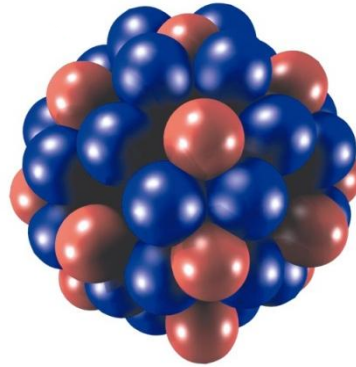


$$M \approx \sum m_i$$

binding energy  
effect  $\approx 10^{-8}$

atomic nucleus

$10^{-14}$  m

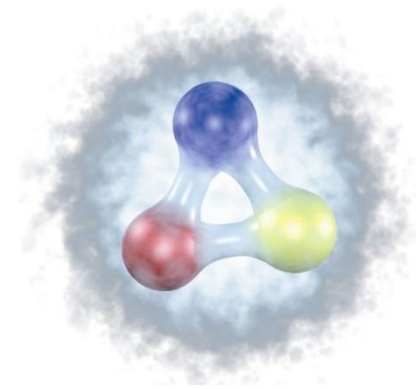


$$M \approx \sum m_i$$

binding energy  
effect  $\approx 10^{-3}$

nucleon

$10^{-15}$  m

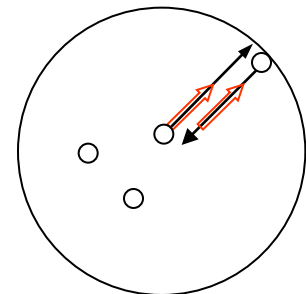


$$M \gg m_i$$

mass given by energy  
stored in motion of  
quarks and by energy in  
colour gluon fields

the role of chiral symmetry breaking

- chiral symmetry = fundamental symmetry of QCD for massless quarks
- chiral symmetry broken on hadron level



# Chirality

- **Chirality** (from the greek word for hand: “ $\chi\epsilon\iota\rho$ ”)  
when an object differs from its mirror image
- **simplification of chirality: helicity**  
(projection of a particle's spin on its momentum direction)
- **massive particles P**
  - left and right handed components must exist
  - $m > 0 \rightarrow$  particle moves w/  $v < c$ 
    - P looks **left handed** in the laboratory
    - P will look **right handed** in a rest frame moving faster than P but in the same direction
  - chirality is **NOT** a conserved quantity
- **in a massless word**
  - **chirality is conserved**
    - careful:  $m=0$  is a sufficient but not a necessary condition



# QCD and chiral symmetry breaking

- the QCD Lagrangian:

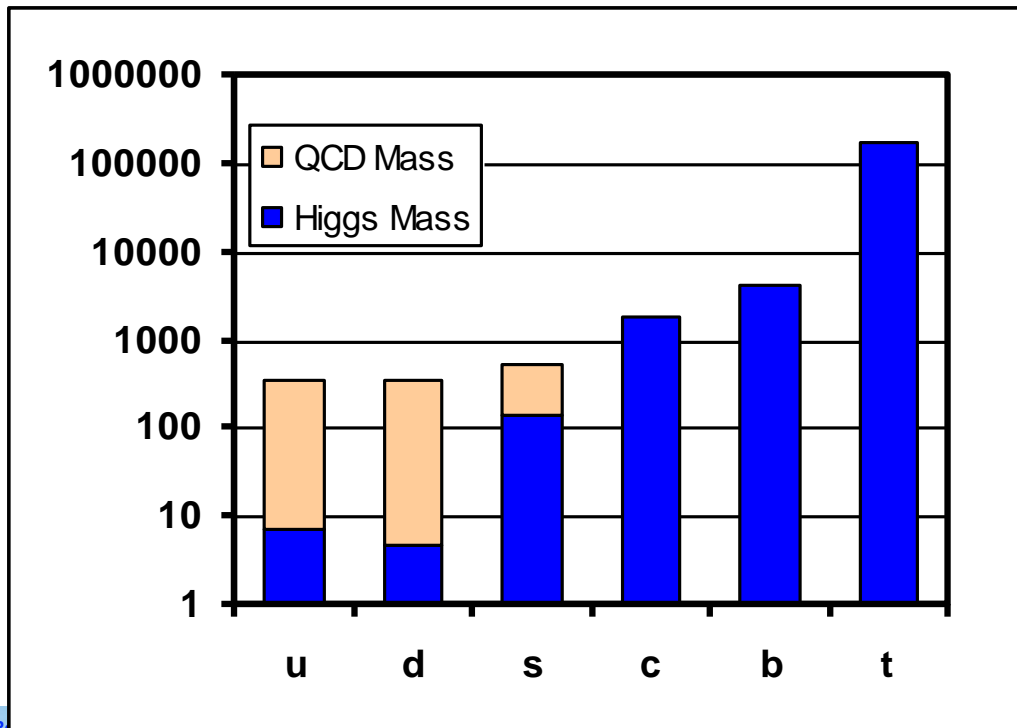
$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}^{\alpha}F_{\alpha}^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{free gluon field}} - \underbrace{\sum_n \bar{\psi}_n \gamma^{\mu} [\partial_{\mu} - ig A_{\mu}^{\alpha} t_{\alpha}] \psi_n}_{\text{interaction of quarks with gluon}} - \underbrace{\sum_n m_n \bar{\psi}_n \psi_n}_{\text{free quarks of mass } m_n}$$

- explicit chiral symmetry breaking
  - mass term  $m_n \bar{\psi}_n \psi_n$  in the QCD Lagrangian
- chiral limit:  $m_u = m_d = m_s = 0$ 
  - chirality would be conserved
  - $\rightarrow$  all states have a 'chiral partner' (opposite parity and equal mass)
- real life
  - $a_1$  ( $J^P=1^+$ ) is chiral partner of  $\rho$  ( $J^P=1^-$ ):  $\Delta_m \approx 500$  MeV
  - even worse for the nucleon:  $N^*$  ( $1/2^-$ ) and  $N$  ( $1/2^+$ ):  $\Delta_m \approx 600$  MeV
  - $\rightarrow$  (small) current quark masses don't explain this
- chiral symmetry is also spontaneously broken
  - spontaneously = dynamically

# Origin of mass

- **current quark mass**

- **generated by spontaneous symmetry breaking (Higgs mass)**
- **contributes ~5% to the visible (our) mass**

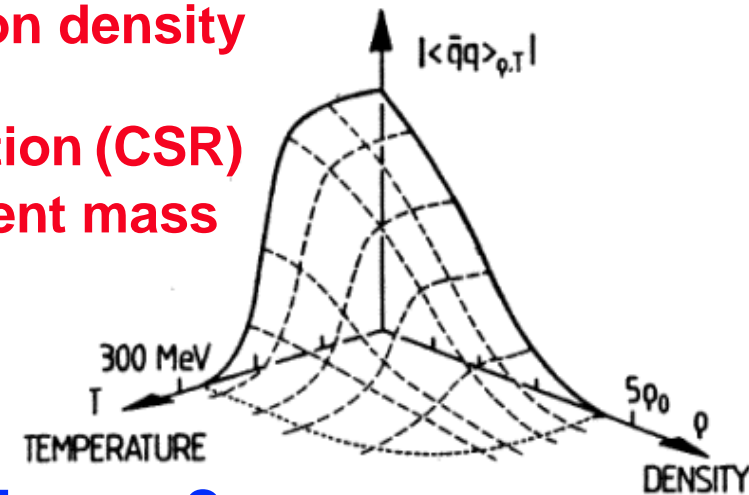


- **constituent quark mass**

- **~95% generated by spontaneous chiral symmetry breaking (QCD mass)**

# Chiral symmetry restoration

- spontaneous symmetry breaking gives rise to a nonzero 'order parameter'
  - QCD: quark condensate  $\langle \bar{q}q \rangle \approx -250 \text{ MeV}^3$
  - many models (!): hadron mass and quark condensate are linked
- numerical QCD calculations
  - at high temperature and/or high baryon density  $\rightarrow$  deconfinement and  $\langle qq \rangle \rightarrow 0$
  - approximate chiral symmetry restoration (CSR)
  - $\rightarrow$  constituent mass approaches current mass
- Chiral Symmetry Restoration
  - expect modification of hadron spectral properties (mass  $m$ , width  $\Gamma$ )
- explicit relation between  $(m, \Gamma)$  and  $\langle qq \rangle$ ?
- QCD Lagrangian  $\rightarrow$  parity doublets are degenerate in mass



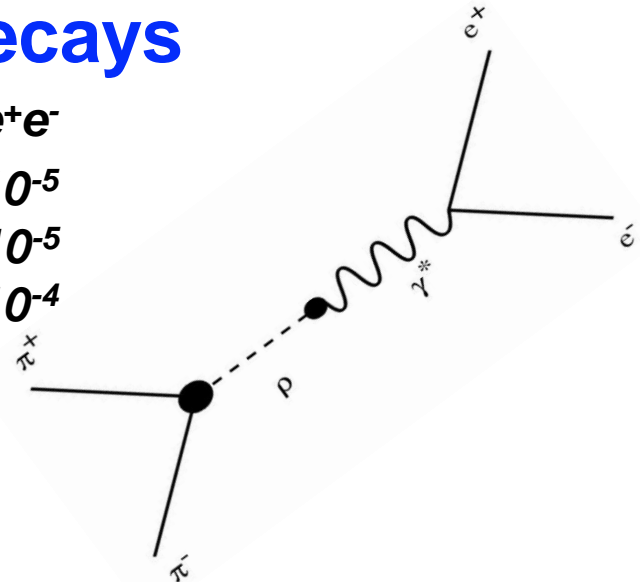


# CSR and low mass dileptons

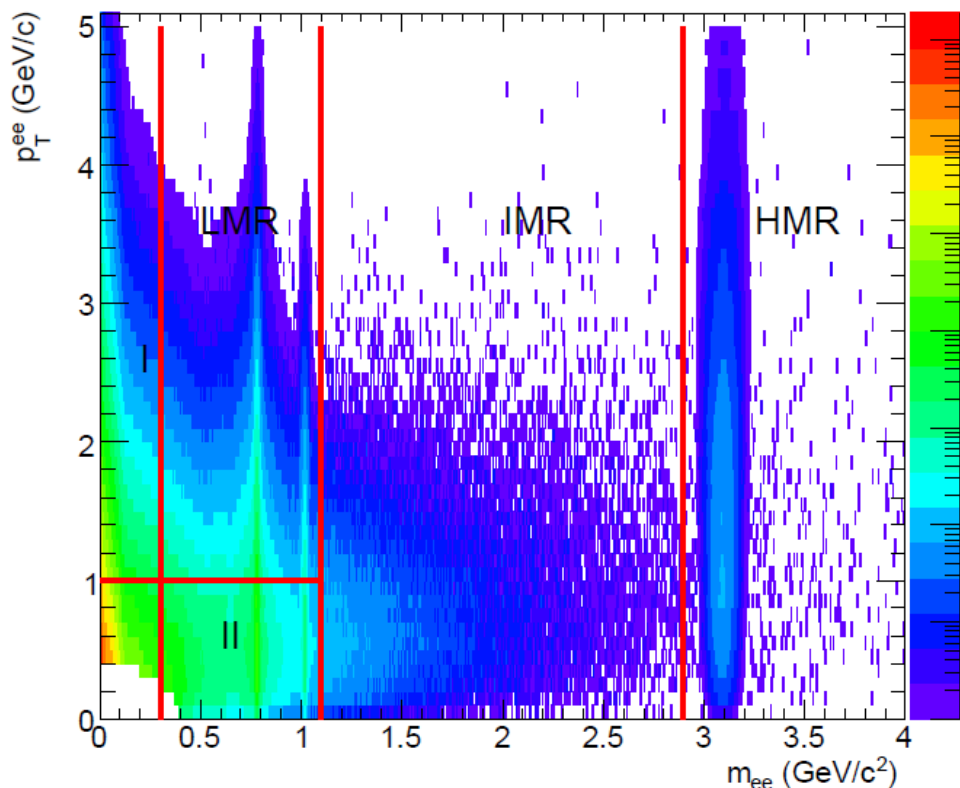
- what are the best probes for CSR?
- requirement: carry hadron spectral properties from  $(T, \rho_B)$  to detectors
  - relate to hadrons in medium
  - leave medium without final state interaction
- dileptons from vector meson decays

	$m$ [MeV]	$\Gamma_{tot}$ [MeV]	$\tau$ [fm/c]	$BR \rightarrow e^+e^-$
$\rho$	770	150	1.3	$4.7 \times 10^{-5}$
$\omega$	782	8.6	23	$7.2 \times 10^{-5}$
$\phi$	1020	4.4	44	$3.0 \times 10^{-4}$

- best candidate:  $\rho$  meson
  - short lived
  - decay (and regeneration) in medium
  - properties of in-medium  $\rho$  and of medium itself not well known
- $\phi$  meson ( $m_\phi \approx 2m_K$ )  $\rightarrow ee/KK$  branching ratio!



# Dilepton Signal



- **LMR:  $m_{ee} < 1.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$**

- **LMR I ( $p_T \gg m_{ee}$ )**

*quasi-real virtual photon region. Low mass pairs produced by higher order QED correction to the real photon emission*

- **LMR II ( $p_T < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )**

**Enhancement of dilepton discovered at SPS (CERES, NA60)**

- **Low Mass Region:**

$m_{ee} < 1.2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

- Dalitz decays of pseudo-scalar mesons
- Direct decays of vector mesons
- In-medium decay of  $\rho$  mesons in the hadronic gas phase

- **Intermediate Mass Region:**

$1.2 < m_{ee} < 2.9 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

- correlated semi-leptonic decays of charm quark pairs
- Dileptons from the QGP

- **High Mass Region:**

$m_{ee} > 2.9 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

- **Dileptons from hard processes**

- Drell-Yan process
- correlated semi-leptonic decays of heavy quark pairs
- Charmonia
- Upsilon

→ HMR probe the initial stage

- Little contribution from thermal radiation

# Dilepton Signal II

- Dileptons characterized by 2 variables:  $M$ ,  $p_T$
- $M$ : spectral functions and phase space factors
- $p_T$ :  $p_T$  - dependence of **spectral function** (dispersion relation)  
 $T$  - dependence of **thermal distribution** of “mother” hadron/parton  
 $M$  - dependent **radial flow** ( $\beta_T$ ) of “mother” hadron/parton

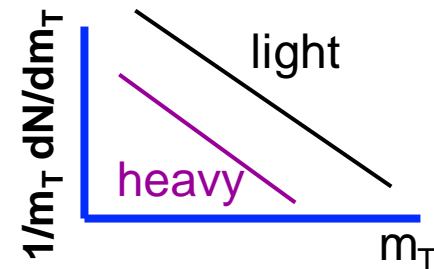
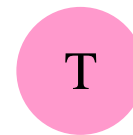
**Note I:**  $M$  Lorentz-invariant, not changed by flow

**Note II:** final-state lepton pairs themselves only weakly coupled

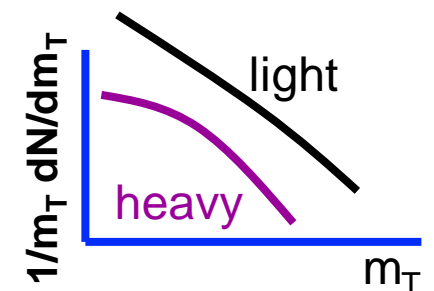
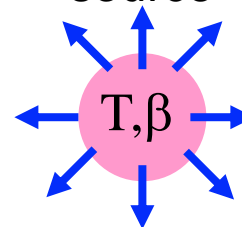
- dilepton  $p_T$  spectra superposition of ‘hadron-like’ spectra at fixed  $T$ 
  - **early emission:** **high**  $T$ , **low**  $\beta_T$
  - **late emission:** **low**  $T$ , **high**  $\beta_T$
- final spectra from space-time folding over  $T$ -  $\beta_T$  history from  $T_i \rightarrow T_{fo}$

→ **handle on emission region,**  
**i.e. nature of emitting source**

purely thermal  
source

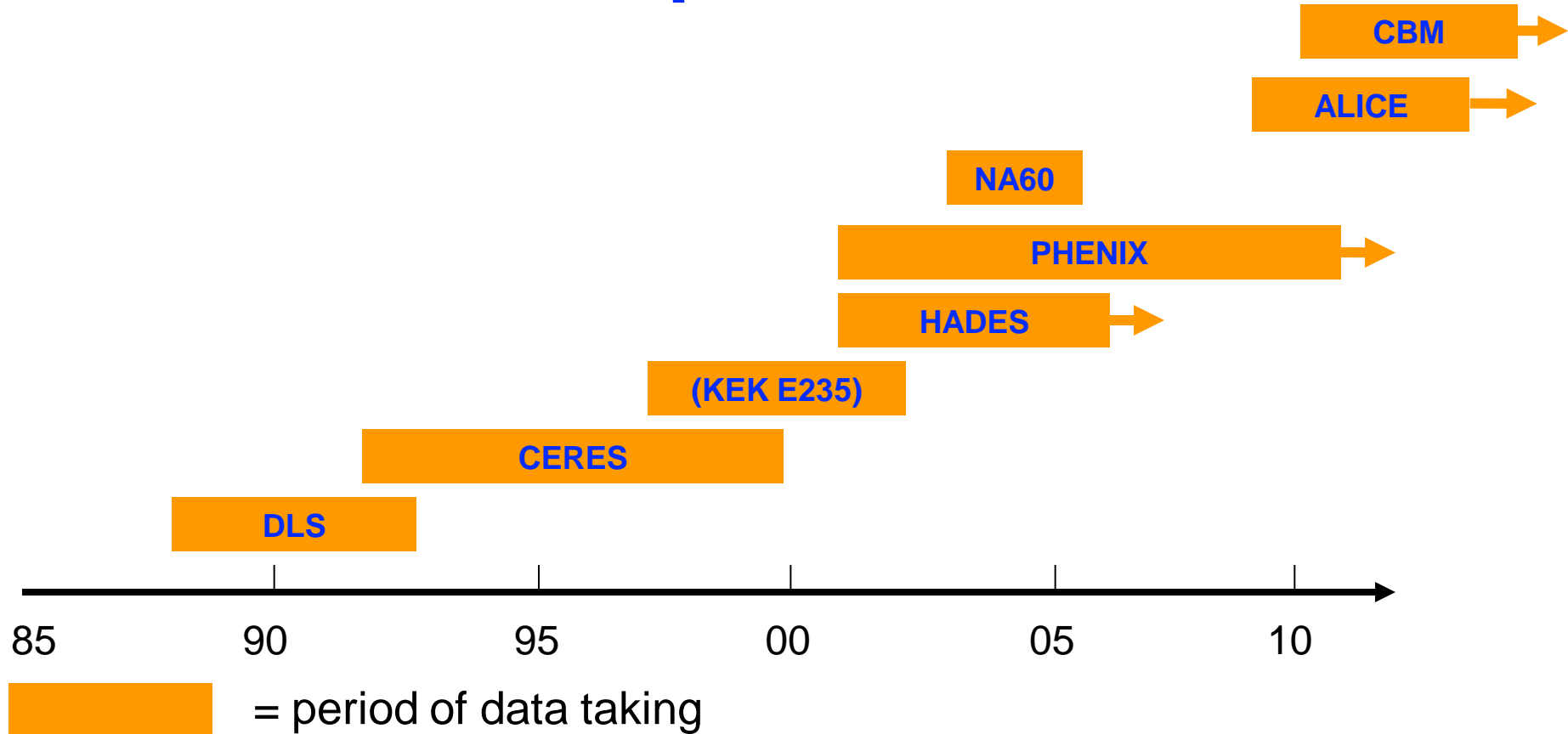


explosive  
source



# HI low-mass dileptons at a glance

- time scale of experiments



# HI low-mass dileptons at a glance

- energy scale of experiments

